



# STUDENTS IN HARRISONBURG

PHOTO ESSAY BY: Kendall Herlica



Top: Senior WRTC Zachary Welker in his apartment in Southview. Welker decided to stay due being able to focus better and self quarantine alone. 2: Senior Chemistry major, Dariia Yehorova and her bird Mira in her house off N High Street. Yehorova is a foreign student who's family is in Ukraine and unable to return due to current immigration laws. 3: Junior SMAD and Theatre double major Chase Downey in theatre house "The Courtyard," Downey opted to stay in Harrisonburg due to his mom having an autoimmune disorder and his dad, who is considered essential personnel, working as a firefighter. 3: Sophomore SMAD and WRTC major, Dylan Reeves-Thacker in his apartment in Grace Street Apartments. As a former RA, Thacker was relocated from his residence from Huffman Hall as ORL consolidated those left on campus.



Halfway through their spring break, JMU students were greeted by a email from the Office of the President on March 11, 2020, which stated that there would be no in person classes the week following spring break and that online instruction would be taking place until April 5th. One week later, online instruction was extended until the end of the semester, commencement was cancelled, and students in on-campus and off-campus housing were urged not to return to Harrisonburg. However, some students came back or stayed, with their own reasoning.



Left: Senior Physics major Nik Roeske in his room in The Pointe. Roeske stayed behind because of his roommates staying behind and to have a last hurrah with them before graduating. Right: Senior Finance major Sam Dickmeyer in her apartment in Bell Hall. As Hall Director of Bell Hall, Dickmeyer assisted in moving out the residents.